

DUTY STATEMENT

Classification: Public Health Medical Officer II		Position Number: 811-165-7722-002	
Branch/Section: Pesticide and Environmental Toxicology Branch / Pesticide Epidemiology Section			
Location: Oakland or Sacramento		Effective Date:	
Management Designation	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Conflict of Interest	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Supervision Received:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Supervision Exercised:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Pursuant to Government Code Section 3100-3109, all public employees are declared to be disaster service workers for the protection of the health and safety and the preservation of the lives and property of the people of the state from the effects of natural, man-made, or war-caused emergencies. Such emergencies may result in conditions of disaster or extreme peril to life, property, and resources and an appropriate response. This is of paramount importance to the state in protecting its citizens and resources.

POSITION SUMMARY

Under the general mandates in the Health and Safety Code §§ 105200-105210, the California Code of Regulations §6728, and the California Food and Agricultural Code, §§ 5029, 12798, 12980-12981, 13121-13134, and 14022-14023, the Pesticide Epidemiology Section (PES) of the Pesticide and Environmental Toxicology Branch in the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) has responsibilities in pesticide-related human health assessments and agricultural worker health and safety evaluations and regulations.

Under general direction of the Senior Toxicologist, Chief, Pesticide Epidemiology Section, the Public Health Medical Officer II provides medical expertise in the health effects of pesticide exposure. The incumbent provides training to physicians and other health professionals on the recognition, management and reporting of pesticide illness and poisoning. The Public Health Medical Officer II also provides medical technical support for various programs involving the Section. The Public Health Medical Officer II serves as the lead contact for the California Medical Supervision Program and contributes to legislative activities involving pesticides and the health and safety of agricultural workers and the general public.

The Public Health Medical Officer II will perform the following duties and other related work:

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

40% **Training of physicians and other health professionals on pesticide poisoning, treatment, prevention and reporting**

Conduct trainings and consultations to local health officers, physicians and other health care providers in various settings (e.g., health care facilities, medical schools, etc.) on pesticide poisoning, treatment, prevention and reporting. Revise existing on-line training course when needed and develop new training courses when directed. Work closely with the PES health program specialist (HPS) to develop written materials (e.g., guidelines, manuals, and information booklets), web-based courses (e.g., slide presentations and videos), and lectures (e.g., slide presentations). Use yearly action plan developed by the HPS to conduct training to the health care community. Advise the HPS in developing strategies to determine outreach needs and in evaluating outreach efforts to ensure their effectiveness.

30% **Epidemiological research for pesticide related studies**

Plan studies to assess health effects of exposure to pesticides. Design epidemiological study tools for conducting studies in areas of high pesticide use in California, including statistically based participant recruitment and sampling plans, study protocols, and exposure questionnaires. Prepare studies to ensure they are compliant with state and national standards and submit them for approval to the State of

(Attach additional sheet if necessary)

I have read and understood the duties and essential functions of the position and can perform these duties with or without reasonable accommodation:	Date:
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Supervisor Signature:	
PERSONNEL USE ONLY: This personnel action has been reviewed and approved by:	
Personnel Analyst Signature:	Date:

California Institutional Review Board (IRB). Collaborate with academic and community partners to ensure studies are conducted using the best available approaches. Direct the development and implementation of epidemiologic research studies and work with other staff in the Section to ensure data gathering. Apply appropriate statistical tests and interpret results to relate exposure to a wide range of human health effects. Recommend policy changes to improve the reporting and better protect agricultural workers from pesticide poisoning. Prepare articles to publish in peer-review journals and present results to a diverse audience.

10% Health and safety of agricultural workers and the general public

Evaluate in conjunction with staff from OEHHA and the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) current and proposed regulations to protect the health and safety of workers handling pesticides, a joint and mutual responsibility of OEHHA and DPR. Review proposed legislation addressing health and safety concerns of agricultural workers. Review and make recommendations on worker exposure protocols developed by independent researchers and contractors to assess human exposure resulting from permitted uses of pesticides.

10% California Medical Supervision Program

Inform and advise physicians involved in implementing the State's medical supervision program that tracks and mitigates the exposure of pesticide mixer/loader/applicators to the highly toxic organophosphate and carbamate pesticides by monitoring blood cholinesterase levels. Provide trainings and consultations to physicians and other health care providers to teach them about the program. Conduct follow-up consultations with the medical supervisors to ensure that the appropriate actions to mitigate or prevent exposure to cholinesterase-inhibiting pesticides take place when significant depression of cholinesterase activity level has occurred. Revise the publication, *Guidelines for Physicians Who Supervise Workers Exposed to Cholinesterase-Inhibiting Pesticides*, as well as the on-line training course, "The California Medical Supervisor Program" when needed. Develop new educational materials, when directed. Provide medical advice on the evaluation of the medical supervision program as well as review reports and scientific documents prepared by staff scientists on this program.

5% Medical Technical Support

Provide medical expertise to assist with cases of acute and chronic pesticide poisoning. Respond to inquiries from the general public about the adverse health effects of pesticides. Provide technical support and medical advice to local health departments and environmental health programs and agricultural commissioners. When a pesticide drift incident occurs, provide medical consultation to address public concerns regarding pesticide toxicity, exposure, and potential health risks. Attend public meetings and address community groups on various medical and public health subjects, including the potential health effects of pesticide products used by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to control and manage invasive insect species. Conduct bill analyses from a medical perspective to assist in the evaluation of proposed legislation that may affect the regulation of pesticides and other toxic chemicals.

5% Professional Development

Prepare articles for publication in scientific journals. Organize and participate in technical workshops of interest to the program. Present at and participate in scientific meetings and conferences at the local and national level to share and gain new information. Attend continuing education courses to maintain Board certification and further develop technical skills and expertise.

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REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Possession of the legal requirements for the practice of medicine in California as determined by the California Medical Quality Assurance or the California Board of Osteopathic Examiners.

Knowledge and proficiency in:

- Modern principles and practices of general medicine and skill in their application including preventive medicine; principles and practices of public health.
- General principles of epidemiology and occupational and environmental health.

Ability to:

- Research, review, and retrieve data from literature taken from various scientific and medical publication data sources.
- Perform simple statistical analyses using basic software (e.g., Excel).
- Produce work products that clearly and concisely convey medical and scientific findings and concepts.
- Revise documents in accordance with comments and suggestions from supervisor and peer reviewers.
- Communicate effectively to a broad audience.
- Exercise good judgment in a timely manner.
- Work cooperatively with OEHHA staff, supervisors and managers, and staff from outside agencies.

Ability and willingness to work within the limits of the program's/department's/state's policies, procedures and resources, and to follow supervisor, program and departmental guidance.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge and proficiency in:

- General principles of toxicology and an understanding of the general principles of human health risk assessment.
- Health effects of acute and chronic exposure to various types of pesticides.
- Treatment, prevention and reporting of pesticide poisoning.
- Common software such as word processing (e.g., Word), spreadsheet (e.g., Excel), and presentation (e.g., PowerPoint).
- Communication platforms (e.g., MS Teams, Zoom).

Ability to:

- Perform systematic reviews and meta-analyses.
- Use statistical computing software (e.g., R, SAS, STATA) to perform more complex statistics.

WORKING CONDITIONS

OEHHA's offices are located in downtown Sacramento and Oakland in a high-rise office building.

The air-conditioned work environment consists mainly of open areas furnished with cubicles. Not all areas have direct natural illumination.

Time-critical assignments are part of the workload. This position requires prolonged sitting while reviewing scientific articles, reports and generating scientific documents and reports is required.

Work duties may at times necessitate attendance to off-site meetings and teleconferences outside standard office hours.

Employees should be available to travel statewide and occasionally out of State, and assignments that require travel may be made on short notice. May be required to travel to other OEHHA locations for business related needs as necessary.

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